

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method used for providing configuration
5 information of a printer to a printer driver in a
server in an image printing system that includes a
client, the printer and the server, comprising the
steps of:

storing, in the server, configuration
10 information of the printer obtained from a setting
information storing region of the client, wherein the
stored configuration information is associated with the
printer driver of the printer; and

passing the configuration information of the
15 printer to the printer driver in the server.

20 2. The method as claimed in claim 1, the step
of storing comprising the steps of:

storing the configuration information of the
printer in the server; and

storing, in the server, correspondence
25 information between the printer driver and the

configuration information file of the printer.

5

3. The method as claimed in claim 1, the step of storing comprising the steps of:

storing the configuration information of the printer in the server; and

10 storing correspondence information having a client name field, a printer driver name field, a printer icon name field, and a configuration information file name field.

15

4. The method as claimed in claim 2, the step of passing comprising the step of:

20 referring to the correspondence information and searching for the configuration information corresponding to information sent from the client.

25

5 5. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein
the server includes a function for constituting an
environment in which applications run only in the
server, and

the step of passing configuration information
of the printer is performed when a logical printer is
auto-created by the function when the client logs onto
the server.
10

6. A server used in an image printing system
15 that includes a client, a printer and the server,
wherein the server includes a printer driver of the
printer, comprising;

a part storing configuration information of
the printer obtained from a setting information storing
20 region in the client, wherein the stored configuration
information is associated with the printer driver of
the printer;

a part passing the configuration information
of the printer to the printer driver in the server.

25

7. The server as claimed in claim 6, the part
5 storing configuration information comprising:

a part storing the configuration information
of the printer; and

a part storing correspondence information
between the printer driver and the configuration
10 information of the printer.

15 8. The server as claimed in claim 6, the part
storing configuration information comprising:

a part storing the configuration information
of the printer; and

a part storing correspondence information
20 having a client name field, a printer driver name field,
a printer icon name field, and a configuration
information file name field.

9. The server as claimed in claim 7, the part passing the configuration information of the printer comprising:

5 a part referring to the correspondence information and searching for the configuration information corresponding to information sent from the client.

10

10. The server as claimed in claim 6, wherein the server includes a function for constituting an
15 environment in which applications run only in the server, and

 the part passing configuration information passes the configuration information when a logical printer is auto-created by the function when the client
20 logs onto the server.

25 11. A computer program for causing a client

to store configuration information of a printer as a
file, wherein the client is used in an image printing
system that includes the client, the printer and a
server including a printer driver of the printer, the
5 computer program comprising:

obtaining program code means for obtaining
configuration information of the printer from a setting
information storing region in the client; and

storing program code means for storing the
10 obtained configuration information in a file.

15 12. The computer program as claimed in claim
11, wherein the configuration information of the
printer is information stored in the setting
information storing region by a printer driver in the
client.

20

13. The computer program as claimed in claim
25 12, wherein the obtaining program code means obtains

print setting information in addition to the
configuration information, and the storing program code
means stores the configuration information and the
print setting information.

5

14. The computer program as claimed in claim
10 12, the computer program further comprising program
code means for making the obtaining program code means
to start to obtain the configuration information right
after the configuration information is stored in the
setting information region by the printer driver in the
15 client.

20 15. The computer program as claimed in claim
11, the computer program further comprising program
code means for displaying a user interface screen by
which a printer driver name can be specified;
wherein the obtaining program code means
25 obtains configuration information of the printer

corresponding to the printer driver name input from the user interface screen.

5

16. A computer program for causing a server to provide configuration information of a printer to a printer driver of the printer in the sever, wherein the server is used in an image printing system that includes a client, the printer and the server, the computer program comprising;

program code means for referring to correspondence information used for searching for the configuration information of the printer, and passing the configuration information of the printer to the printer driver in the server.

20

17. The computer program as claimed in claim 16, wherein the correspondence information is correspondence information between the printer driver and the configuration information of the printer.

5 18. The computer program as claimed in claim
16, wherein the correspondence information includes a
client name field, a printer driver name field, a
printer icon name field, and a configuration
information file name field.

10

 19. The computer program as claimed in claim
15 16, wherein the server includes a function for
constituting an environment in which applications run
only in the server, and

 the program code means for referring passes
the configuration information to the printer driver
20 when a logical printer is auto-created by the function
when the client logs onto the server.

25

20. A computer program for causing a computer
to store configuration information of a printer into a
server, wherein the server is used in an image printing
system that includes a client, the printer and the
5 server, and the server includes a printer driver of the
printer, the computer program comprising:

program code means for reading the
configuration information of the printer,
program code means for storing the
10 configuration information in the server;
program code means for creating
correspondence information between the printer driver
and the configuration information, and storing the
correspondence information in the server.

15

21. The computer program as claimed in claim
20 20, wherein the configuration information is a file
created from information read from a setting
information storing region in the client.

25

22. The computer program as claimed in claim
20, wherein the correspondence information includes a
client name field, a printer driver name field, a
5 printer icon name field, and a configuration
information file name field.

10

23. The computer program as claimed in claim
20, the computer program further comprising:

program code means for displaying a user
interface screen used for specifying the file,

15

wherein the program code means for storing
the configuration information stores a file specified
from the user interface screen as the configuration
information in the server.

20

24. The computer program as claimed in claim
23, wherein the user interface screen includes fields
25 for specifying a configuration information file, a

client name, a printer driver name, and a printer icon name, and

the correspondence information is created by using items of information input from the user

5 interface screen.

10 25. A computer readable medium storing a computer program for causing a client to store configuration information of a printer as a file, wherein the client is used in an image printing system that includes the client, the printer and a server
15 including a printer driver of the printer, the computer program comprising:

obtaining program code means for obtaining configuration information of the printer from a setting information storing region in the client; and

20 storing program code means for storing the obtained configuration information in a file.

26. The computer readable medium as claimed
in claim 25, wherein the configuration information of
the printer is information stored in the setting
information storing region by a printer driver in the
5 client.

10 27. The computer readable medium as claimed
in claim 26, wherein the obtaining program code means
obtains print setting information in addition to the
configuration information, and the storing program code
means stores the configuration information and the
15 print setting information.

20 28. The computer readable medium as claimed
in claim 26, the computer program further comprising
program code means for making the obtaining program
code means to start to obtain the configuration
information right after the configuration information
25 is stored in the setting information region by the

printer driver in the client.

5

29. The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 25, the computer program further comprising program code means for displaying a user interface screen by which a printer driver name can be specified;

10

wherein the obtaining program code means obtains configuration information of the printer corresponding to the printer driver name input from the user interface screen.

15

30. A computer readable medium storing computer program for causing a server to provide configuration information of a printer to a printer driver of the printer in the sever, wherein the server is used in an image printing system that includes a client, the printer and the server, the computer program comprising;

25

program code means for referring to

correspondence information used for searching for the configuration information of the printer, and passing the configuration information of the printer to the printer driver in the server.

5

31. The computer readable medium as claimed
10 in claim 30, wherein the correspondence information is correspondence information between the printer driver and the configuration information of the printer.

15

32. The computer readable medium as claimed
in claim 30, wherein the correspondence information includes a client name field, a printer driver name
20 field, a printer icon name field, and a configuration information file name field.

25

33. The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 30, wherein the server includes a function for constituting an environment in which applications run only in the server, and

5 the program code means for referring passes the configuration information to the printer driver when a logical printer is auto-created by the function when the client logs onto the server.

10

34. A computer readable medium storing a computer program for causing a computer to store configuration information of a printer into a server, wherein the server is used in an image printing system that includes a client, the printer and the server, and the server includes a printer driver of the printer, the computer program comprising:

20 program code means for reading the configuration information of the printer,

 program code means for storing the configuration information in the server;

 program code means for creating
25 correspondence information between the printer drover

and the configuration information, and storing the
correspondence information in the server.

5

35. The computer readable medium as claimed
in claim 34, wherein the configuration information is a
file created from information read from a setting
10 information storing region in the client.

15

36. The computer readable medium as claimed
in claim 34, wherein the correspondence information
includes a client name field, a printer driver name
field, a printer icon name field, and a configuration
information file name field.

20

37. The computer readable medium as claimed
25 in claim 35, the computer program further comprising:

program code means for displaying a user
interface screen used for specifying the file,

wherein the program code means for storing
the configuration information stores the file specified
5 from the user interface screen as the configuration
information in the server.

10

38. The computer readable medium as claimed
in claim 37, wherein the user interface screen includes
fields for specifying a configuration information file,
a client name, a printer driver name, and a printer
15 icon name, and

the correspondence information is created by
using items of information input from the user
interface screen.

20

25